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Attorney Docket No. 60,426-003

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Lichtinger et al.

Art Unit: 2855

Serial No.: 09/507,868

Examiner: McCall, Eric S.

Filed: February 22, 2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SENSING
SEAT OCCUPANT WEIGHT

Docket No.: 60,426-003 (1999P07471)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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ELECTION AND AMENDMENT

In response to the office action of May 16, 2002, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 8-18, 22, and 23. Please add the following new claims 24-38.

24. (New) A system according to claim 1 wherein said first track and said second track form an inboard track assembly and wherein said at least one sensor comprises a first sensor assembly mounted to said inboard track assembly for generating a first signal in response to measuring deflection of said inboard track assembly and a second sensor assembly mounted to an outboard track assembly spaced apart from said inboard track assembly, said second sensor assembly for generating a second signal in response to measuring deflection of said outboard track assembly and including a central processor for determining seat occupant weight based on said first and second signals.

25. (New) A system according to claim 24 wherein said inboard and outboard track assemblies have a predetermined cross-sectional area with each track assembly having at least